



Soul Winners Refresher Course - Introduction

As we consider this New Year, I would like to point us toward this wonderful privilege and responsibility that the Lord has given to all of us— which is to herald the Gospel.

Illustration -

The Bible says in **Mark 16:15** *"15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*

You see, the truth is by way of introduction, that all of us are responsible for two major areas in the Christian life. They are heralding the gospel or as some call it Soul-winning and we are responsible for this matter of discipleship— or we may use the language of Scripture teaching whatsoever the Lord has commanded us— or we may say equipping the Saints for the work of the ministry.

We will begin tonight by understanding just some simple foundational truth concerning this task before us:

I. God's Will Is For _____ Men To Be Saved

Let's look at this truth in the context of the passage in **1 Timothy 2:1-6**.

1 Timothy 2:1–6 *"1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."*

Paul is giving crucial instructions to Timothy, His predecessor. I believe Paul's intention

was that Timothy would continue on the work for Christ after He was gone. And so Paul is instructing this young preacher on important practices to influence and live the Christian life. There is only one mediator between God and me— and that is the anointed One or we may say the Messiah Jesus. Who did what? Who gave himself a ransom for all... to be testified in due time. We have that great privilege to testify of the Lord Jesus Christ in these times.

A. This Means That _____ Is Excluded

What you discover when you look in the Scriptures is that men and women from all walks of life and differing backgrounds were saved. Consider these few:

Noah was saved and He was able to rescue his entire family.

The immoral woman of Sychar was saved by meeting Jesus at Jacob's well.

A demon-possessed man was saved who lived in a graveyard.

Cornelius was saved, a man who was a Roman Soldier.

Nicodemus, I believe was saved, a man who trusted in His religion at the first.

B. This Means That You Are Operating _____ To God's _____

If God says, that this is His will, than we can rest assured that we are operating according to His will.

Psalm 119:1–2 *"1 ALEPH. Blessed are the undefiled in the way, Who walk in the law of the Lord. 2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, And that seek him with the whole heart."*

Again, this is no secret in the Word of God— when we operate according to His will, we have the blessing of God upon our lives.

C. This Means That God _____ Force Anyone To Choose Him

The fact that we are commanded to present the Gospel and the fact that we understand it is God's will for all men to be saved further tells us that NOT ALL MEN WILL BE SAVED. Not every person who hears the gospel will trust in Christ. Why? Because (1) God designed us with the ability to **make free choices within bounds**. (2) God's reachable method by His grace through faith **is accessible to everyone, but requires men to choose**. Faith — belief— trust— is something that is accessible to all, but must be exercised personally and individually.

D. This Means That You Are Co-labourers _____

Philippians 2:13 *“13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”*

I love the picture that the Lord gives us when He states in **Matthew 11:28–29** *“28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”*

E. This Means That The _____ Is _____ Men Being Saved

We must understand that you and I are in a warfare for the souls of men. All throughout Scripture we can see how the enemy of our souls has been endeavoring — foolishly I might add to thwart the plans of God.

The Bible tells us that *“the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”* (**2 Corinthians 4:4**)

But you and I considering this fact can by faith take hold of the Scriptures that tells us in **1 John 4:4** *“4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”*

No amount of darkness can put out the Light of Christ!